

NEWSLETTER

The Texas Undergraduate Medical Academy



The Jade class of 2022 pose with Dr. Dennis Daniels in their new white coats.

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Announcements

Hello, I would like to formally introduce myself as the 2022-2023 UMA Historian. I hope you all had a great October, whether you decided to attend Homecoming or stay in and study for those classes during midterms. I hope you enjoy the newsletter, highlighting events that occurred this past month, along with a bonus study playlist and upcoming UMA events and birthdays!

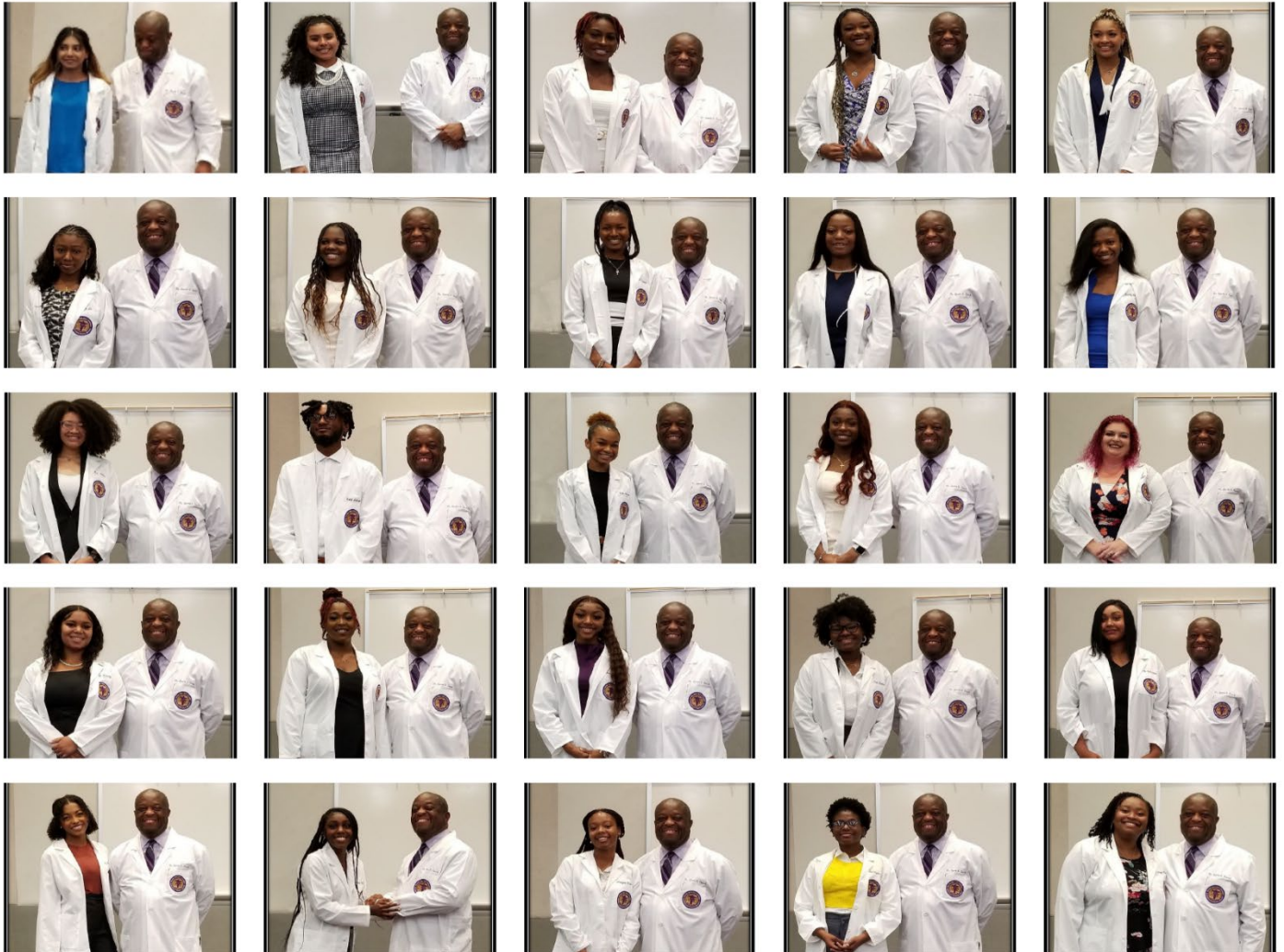
-Erin Renfro, Historian

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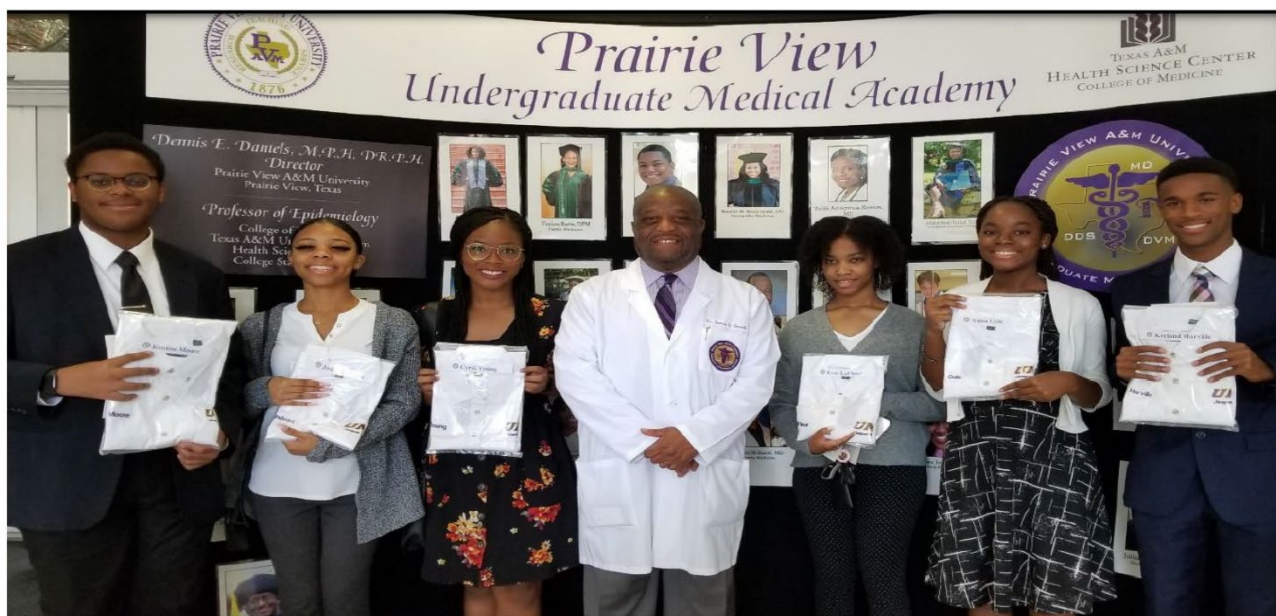
White Coat Ceremony 2022

On October 22nd, 2022, the Texas Undergraduate Medical Academy hosted our annual White Coat ceremony. This year, 25 new students were coated, and 6 new Freshman Jasper Scholars were welcomed to the UMA. At the ceremony, Dr. Daniels officially designated this group of scholars as Jade class.



The Jade Class of 2022

Students pictured being coated by Dr. Daniels. From left to right: Sana Ali, Haile Allen, Jane Ambe, Eryka Appiah-Amaning, Kiersten Atkinson, Mariata Ba, Mikylah Blackshire, Taylor Brewer, Britney Chukwu, Trinity James, Geri Jenkins, Katie Johnson, Kahlil Johnson, Simone Lenoir, Jacqueline McGill, Camryn Murray, Hope Pointer, Justyce Redeau, Erin Renfro, Alexis Richardson, Amina Rose, Amarys Royal, Areyana Stigler, Shantal Taylor, and Paige Wilson.



Jasper Scholars—Class of 2022

Jasper Scholars pose with Dr Daniels. From left to right: Kenton Moore, Jada Mendoza, Cyrai Young, Dr. Dennis Daniels, Erin LaFleur, Anisa Cole, Keeland Harville.

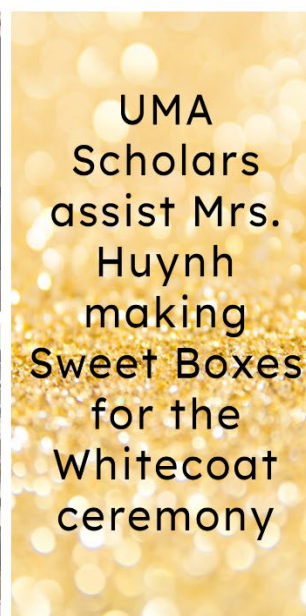


Jade Class Jasper Scholars (Class of 2021)

Class of 2021 Jasper Scholars. From left to right: Quyen Huynh, Justyce Redeau, Areyana Stigler, Geri Jenkins, Trinity James, Erin Renfro, Sana Ali, Simone Lenoir, Paige Wilson, Jane Ambe, Dr. Dennis Daniels, and Eryka Appiah-Amaning.



From left to right: Taverlyn Shepard (Mistress of the Ceremony and Miss Prairie View), Dr. Dennis Daniels, Ms. Kathleen Straker, Mr. Ronnie Fleming, Dr. Naznin Sultana, Anisa Cole, Keeland Harville, Erin LaFleur, Jada Mendoza, Kenton Moore, Cyrai Young, Mrs. Quyen Huynh, and Ms. Tenley Sablatzky.



UMA Scholars assist Mrs. Huynh prepare Sweet Boxes for the White Coat reception.

Medical School Visits



UMA Scholars visiting the University of Texas at Tyler School of Medicine

UMA Scholars had the opportunity to visit two medical schools during the month of October. On October 7th, 18 students traveled to Sam Houston State University College of Osteopathic Medicine; on October 19th, group of 20 students visited the Sam Houston State University College of Medicine. The trips allowed the UMA students to tour the campuses, meet the faculty and staff, and discussed creating a competitive medical school application. The next medical school visit will be on November 17th, 2022, to Meharry University Medical College.



UMA Scholars visiting the Sam Houston State University College of Osteopathic Medicine

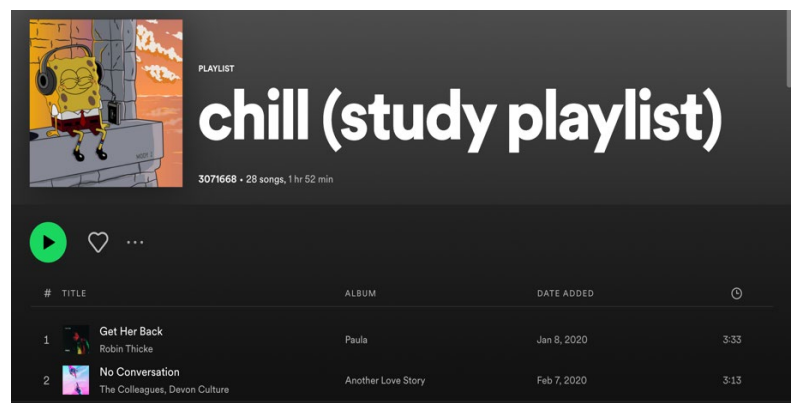
Homecoming 2022



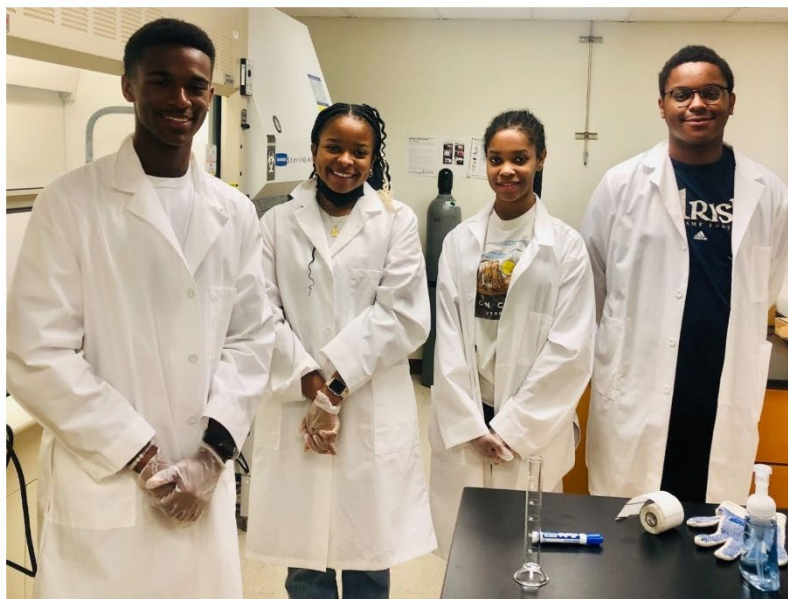
Mr. and Miss UMA, Anthony Curtis and Erin Jackson, representing the TUMA in the 2022 PVAMU Homecoming Parade. Ms. Sherylle Hackney Fuller representing the TUMA and PVAMU's Golden Class of 1972. Also pictured: Mr. Joel Swisher, Jessica Henderson, and Jacqueline McGill.

Study Playlist

For your enjoyment, here's a short playlist for your studying needs. Click the image to download this new playlist made by TUMA Historian, Erin Renfro



UMA Research



Junior Emily Irikannu (pictured second from the left) is working as Research Assistant under the RISE Undergraduate Research Grant.

Additionally, Jasper Scholars Keeland Harville (left), Erin LaFleur (second from the right) and Kenton Moore (right) are assisting Dr. Sultana in her lab this semester.

"I've been working in Dr. Sultana's lab under the RISE grant, a program that funds lab projects. In this lab, I have been working on creating a poster displaying my work in creating scaffolds using polymers. I'm very thankful to the UMA, Dr. Sultana, and the RISE program for this opportunity!"

Emily Irikannu, Junior

"During this semester, Dr. Sultana has provided us with quality research techniques and insight. The most exciting part of the week is progressing in our work."

Keeland Harville, Jasper Scholar

23rd Annual Biology Research Symposium

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Sonya Wolf-Fortune

"Paving a Career Path from an HBCU: My Journey into Diabetes Research"

UMA Alumna Dr. Sonya Wolf-Fortune, class of 2013, returned to PVAMU on October 28th to share her experience on finding her place in science. The UMA was also well-represented in the Oral Poster competition. Congratulations to Calah Burros (1st), Emily Irikannu (2nd), and Edom Kidane (3rd)!



Pictured, UMA alumna, Dr. Sonya Wolf-Fortune, speaking at the 23rd Annual Biology Research Symposium at PVAMU. At the Symposium, three UMA students won the Oral Poster competition: Calah Burros (1st place), Emily Irikannu (2nd place), and Edom Kidane (3rd place).

Alumni Spotlight

Dr. Maxwell Sencherey, DO

I graduated from Prairie View A&M University in 2010 with a B.S. in Biology and Minor in Chemistry. I was a member of the inaugural UMA class. I was also a member of, and starting linebacker, for the Championship 2009 PVAMU Football team.

I attended medical school at Oklahoma State College of Osteopathic Medicine. I graduated with honors in 2016. I did my residency in Anesthesiology at Oklahoma State Medical Center from 2016- 2020. I was involved in two research projects while in residency. After completing residency, I returned to Houston, and am currently in a private practice group covering several hospitals in the Houston area. I currently practice Anesthesia for several different types of surgeries, including General, Orthopedic, Neurosurgical, Obstetrics/Gynecology, Urologic, Bariatric, Pediatric.



Dr. Max Sencherey with Dr. Dennis Daniels during the summer at PREM 2022.

Research Projects:

**Declare the Past, Diagnose the Present, and Simulate the Future:
Can Simulation Prepare Physicians for Catastrophic Events?**

T. Bright, M. Moore, M. Sencherey

-1st Place at 2019 OSUMC Quality and Patient Safety Symposium

Postoperative Pain Management: Examining the Research Pipeline

C. Cook, J. Fernan, J. Horn, J. Gordon, M. Vassar, M. Moore, M. Sencherey, M. Farabough

Q&A with Dr. Sencherey:

Q: How did you decide to pursue anesthesiology as a specialty? Did you consider other areas prior or were you always interested in anesthesiology?

A: When I first started medical school, I thought I wanted to go into Orthopedic Surgery. After shadowing an African American Orthopedic Surgeon in Tulsa during my second year of med school I quickly learned that being on my feet in surgery for long hours and clinic was not for me! He suggested that I look into Anesthesiology, since it offered as good lifestyle and seemed to fit my personality well. I did an elective rotation in Anesthesia during my 3rd year, and it did not disappoint! I loved the fact that I could do a lot of hands-on procedures and still be clinically challenged in the OR. I also get to use a wide variety of medications and see the effect of each medication almost immediately. I enjoy that Anesthesiology affords me a great lifestyle that allows me to do other things that I love outside of my career.

Q: What was the best or most helpful thing about being part of the UMA?

A: The UMA gave me exposure to several different professional schools by taking us on tours and having representatives from the schools come and speak to us. I was first exposed to OSU-COM when they came and spoke to us at the UMA. Before this, I had little knowledge of what a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine was. The ability to go to conferences, such as the NMA conference, was amazing. And the summer medical school prep courses at UTMB were invaluable and gave great insight to what medical school life would look like.

Q: What's one piece of advice you can give to current students in the process of applying to professional schools?

A: My advice would be to apply broadly if possible and don't just limit yourself to in-state institutions. Get shadowing experience in the field you are interested in. It is important to have good grades and test scores, but it is also important to be well-rounded. Schools are genuinely interested in other hobbies and aspects of your life outside of academics.

Practice MCAT and DAT Exam



The Texas Undergraduate Medical Academy hosted a practice MCAT/DAT session on October 08, 2022, for UMA students who are preparing for the MCAT/DAT exam. The next practice MCAT/DAT is scheduled for November 12, 2022, in the E. E. O'Banion Science Building, Suite 129.



UMA Scholars taking the practice MCAT/DAT exam



UMA Scholars taking the practice MCAT/DAT exam



UMA Scholars taking the practice MCAT/DAT exam

Community Service Activities



UMA Scholars helping to create the Bamboo Garden at PVAMU. From left to right: Cyrai Young, Kenton Moore, Keeland Harville, Erin LaFleur, and Anisa Cole.

On Saturday, September 17, five TUMA Jasper scholars volunteered at the Gov. Bill and Vara Daniel Farm on the Prairie View A&M Campus, in a project created and led by a senior with the college of business and architecture. They planted bamboo trees in Phase Three of the farm. The trees were a generous donation from Bamboo Texas, a nursery in Hockley, Texas. The bamboo, which is about six feet tall currently, is expected to grow to 50 feet when it reaches full maturity.



TUMA Scholars volunteering during PVAMU's St. Jude Walk on October 15th, 2022.



UMA Students; Haile Allen, Maci Guy, Kahlil Johnson, and Jacqueline McGill practice splinting and bandaging wounds during CERT class.



TUMA Scholars practicing bandaging and splinting as part of their Community Emergency Response Training. Left to right: Kahlil Johnson, Haile Allen, Maci Guy, Ms. Gail Brekke, and Jacqueline McGill.



TUMA Scholars visiting the Prairie View Volunteer Fire Station during their Community Emergency Response Training (CERT).

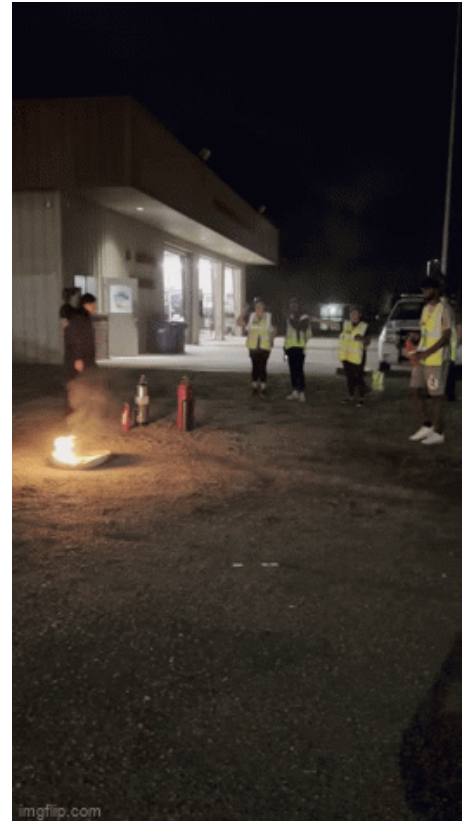
TUMA Scholars Learning to Extinguish Fires



Haile Allen putting out a fire



Favor Lewis putting out a fire



Kahlil Johnson putting out a fire



Jacqueline McGill putting out a fire



Maci Guy putting out a fire



Birthday Shoutout



October

MIKAYLAH BLACKSHIRE	10/12
GERU JENKINS	10/12
CYRAI YOUNG	10/22
MAKENZIE TAPLIN	10/23
IMAN TAYLOR	10/23
ERIN JACKSON	10/25
SIMONE LENOIR	10/28
GRACE BROOKS	10/29

November

CAMRYN MURRAY	11/7
NAOMI DILLARD	11/7
JACARI TATE	11/9
FADUMA HASSAN	11/13
KENTON MOORE	11/19
PAIGE WILSON	11/19
PARIS SEMIEN	11/21
JACQUELINE MCGILL	11/22

Happy belated and early birthday to our UMA students!

Upcoming Events

